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Letter dated 1 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions of my Government, I have the honour to submit herewith a copy of the common understanding reached between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and the Government of the Republic of Rwanda on the way forward for the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter together with its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Semakula **Kiwanuka**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 1 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Common understanding of Uganda and Rwanda on the way forward for the peace process in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

1. Uganda and Rwanda fully appreciate the need to support all the Congolese parties and the facilitation of their effort to reach an understanding on institutions that would ensure a secure and successful transition in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

2. The two countries welcome the considerable results already achieved in this regard in areas of defence, economy, social and humanitarian affairs, and national reconciliation. In all, 37 resolutions were adopted by all parties in plenary.

3. Uganda and Rwanda salute the efforts and perseverance of the Facilitator, and the support of the host country, and congratulate all the Congolese parties to the dialogue for their dedication to this important national duty.

4. Uganda and Rwanda recognize the importance of creating institutions that will ensure a smooth and stable transition. The institutions, agreed upon by consensus, must contain the following key elements: power-sharing in all State institutions, separation of powers, and inclusiveness.

5. Uganda and Rwanda appeal to the Congolese parties to take into consideration the fact that the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is unique and requires special consideration in order to bring about mutual reassurances in matters of security and full participation in decision-making.

6. Uganda and Rwanda agree to examine the proposal of 12 April by President Thabo Mbeki and any views, amendments and counter-proposals, and any other understandings submitted by the parties, and share their findings with the Facilitator, Sir Ketumile Masire, and President Thabo Mbeki.

7. The two countries call upon all the Congolese parties to continue to participate in the finalizing of the power-sharing agreement through the Follow-up Committee set up by the Facilitator.

8. Uganda and Rwanda agree to use their good offices to persuade their respective allies to commit themselves to what they have already accomplished and to cooperate fully with the Facilitator for the successful completion of power-sharing arrangements.

9. Finally, Uganda and Rwanda appeal to the international community to continue to support the quest for a broad-based, all-inclusive solution to the Congolese question, taking into account the uniqueness and complexity of the situation.

Done at Kigali, 26 April 2002

Honourable André Bumaya
Minister of Foreign Affairs
and Regional Cooperation
Republic of Rwanda

Right Honourable James Wapakhabulo
Third Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Uganda